

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 IO-13 ACDA-19 NIC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 RSR-01

/178 W

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P R 201130Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3960

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 3069

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR VS SG

SUBJ: RECOGNITION OF PRG

REF: 1. SAIGON 12986 2. DAKAR 3037

1. WHILE NOT WISHING TO BLOW GOS RECOGNITION OF PRG UP OUT OF PROPORTION, I WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST CERTAIN CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH I BELIEVE MAY BEAR ON FUTURE GVN REACTION TO SUCH DEVELOPMENTS.

2. WHILE I CANNOT SPEAK FOR DAHOMEY (REFTEL 1), I DO NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE PRC HAD ANY REAL BEARING ON GOS ACTION. IF THERE WERE ANY SERIOUS OUTSIDE INFLUENCE, IT WOULD MORE LIKELY BE SENGHOR'S CLOSE FRIEND SIHANOUK, WHO MAINTAINS A MOST ACTIVE EMBASSY HERE. PRC HAS NOT MADE ANY MAJOR AID GESTURE TO SENEGAL OF WHICH WE ARE AWARE, NOR DO WE ANTICIPATE ONE IN THE NEAR FUTURE. UNLIKE SOME OF HIS COLLEAGUES, DOUBT THAT SENGHOR, WHO
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HAS HIS PRIDE, CAN BE BOUGHT SO READILY, UNLESS PERHAPS

THE STAKES WERE RELLY HIGH.

3. I AM RATHER INCLINED BELIEVE RECOGNITION RATIONALE LIES, AS EXPRESSED IN GOS STATEMENT OF JULY 19 WHICH BEING SENT SEPTEL, IN SENGHOR PENCHANT FOR WHAT HE CALLS THE DIALOGUE, ACCORDING TO WHICH HE HAS DONE UTMOST TO RECOGNIZE ALL PARTIES IN EVERY DIVIDED SITUATION (HE EVEN MANAGED TO HAVE REPRESENTATION FROM BOTH CHINAS FOR A TIME, THOUGH PRC PRESSURE FINALLY ENDED OFFICIAL ROC REPRER SP NZMN HERE)-- TWO GERMANIES, TWO KOREAS, HANOI FOR A LONG TIME, AND SO ON. WOULD POINT OUT THAT HANOI HAS NEVER HAD RESIDENT REP HERE, DESPITE GESTURE OF RECOGNITION.

4. IN ANY EVENT, WE ARE NOW PRESENTED WITH AN EXISTING SITUATION. IN MY VIEW, MOST LOGICAL GVN ACTION WOULD BE TO MOVE IN FAST AND LIMIT DAMAGE BY QUICKLY GETTING RESIDENT AMBASSADOR TRAN ON SPOT. THERE IS NO USE TRYING TO PRESSURE SENGHOR TO GO BACK ON RECOGNITION BY DEMARCHES WITH OTHER AFRICAN LEADERS

(I.E. HOUPHOUET). NOR IS ESTABLISHING TRAN IN GAMBIA A VIABLE SOLUTION; IT WOULD LIKELY BE SEEN BY SENEGALESE AS FACE-LOSING GESTURE, AND HIS TIME AND TALENTS WOULD BE RELATIVELY WASTED IN TINY GAMBIA.

5. WHILE I RECOGNIZE INTERNAL GVN PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE PREVENTED POSTING OF AMBASSADOR HERE FOR MANY MONTHS, I BELIEVE IT IS MISTAKE FOR THEM TO LEAVE IMPORTANT REPRESENTATION TO STATUS-CONSCIOUS SENEGALESE IN HANDS OF CHARGE, HOWEVER CAPABLE. I THINK NOW IS THE TIME FOR GVN TO SWALLOW ITS PRIDE, AND MAKE THE GESTURE OF INSTALLING AMBASSADOR TRAN AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITY. I AM CERTAIN THAT GOS SINCERELY DOES NOT RPT NOT WISH ANY SORT OF BREAK WITH GVN, QUITE THE CONTRARY. IT WOULD BE SHAME FOR LATTER TO BRING IT ABOUT. BUT GVN MUST RECOGNIZE THAT AFRICANS ARE SUPER SENSITIVE TO PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY OTHER GOVERNMENTS WHICH APPEAR TO BE DESIGNED TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE AFRICANS. THIS IS WHAT HAS HAPPENED
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HERE, AND I HOPE THAT THE LESSON MAY HAVE BEEN LEARNED.
CLARK

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